

Throughout the world, the commercial electronics industry converted to lead-free component technology years ago. However, the defense electronics industry here at home remains reliant on lead-based assembly technology.

That's because Defense electronics in a fighter jet have different performance requirements than commercial electronics such as in an iPhone. These defense platforms require a much longer lifespan and the ability to perform in extreme environments.

Our amendment seeks to address the difficulty and cost DOD has experienced in trying to source lead-free electronic technologies, which will only increase as time goes on.

Additionally, without research and investment, our defense industrial base will continue to face challenges incorporating newly developed technologies, ultimately adversely affecting our military readiness.

I urge my colleagues to back our amendment to bolster U.S. efforts to develop lead-free defense electronics and look forward to working with Rep. KUSTER and the defense subcommittee on this issue.

**RECOGNIZING THE 2019 PRINCE WILLIAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE CITY OF MANASSAS PARK FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 19, 2019*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue Department and its outstanding members who have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and are the 2019 recipients of the prestigious Prince William Chamber of Commerce Merit Award and Valorous Unit Award for their service. The annual Prince William Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery above and beyond the line of duty exemplified by our public safety and law enforcement professionals.

For the past 33 years, the Prince William Chamber of Commerce has paid tribute to our firefighters, police officers, and emergency personnel for their extraordinary service. These brave men and women put their lives at risk on a daily basis to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. For fire and rescue personnel, no two days are alike. Always on the front lines, the City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue Department is comprised of three sections: community safety, operations, and support systems.

These dedicated service members of a combination career and volunteer system fight fires, provide emergency medical services, perform rescues, and work in our community to promote fire safety and prevention. In recognition of their acts of valor, it is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue Department public safety personnel:

Valorous Unit: Battalion Chief Adam Jones—Battalion 589, Captain Josh Brandon—Medic 509, Fire Medic Randy Leach—Engine 509, Fire Medic John Pearre—Medic

509, Master Firefighter David Sullivan—Medic 509, Firefighter/EMT Kentry Snow—Engine 509.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 2019 Prince William Chamber of Commerce Valor Award recipients of the City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue Department. The selfless acts of heroism by this distinguished group of men and women truly merits our highest praise. I thank each honoree, as well as all City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue Department public safety professionals for their dedication and commitment to the protection of our communities.

**HONORING LINK STRATEGIC PARTNERS**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 19, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating LINK Strategic Partners on becoming the 2019 District of Columbia Small Business of the Year. This distinction is awarded as part of our 22nd annual District of Columbia Small Business Fair, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

This year, we are proud to honor LINK Strategic Partners, a national strategic communications and stakeholder engagement firm headquartered in Washington, D.C. LINK provides strategic communications and "hyperlocal" community engagement. With a radically different approach to the communications and public relations industry, LINK puts people, relationships and communities first.

LINK began in 2012 with two full-time employees sharing a small office in the Greater Washington Urban League building in the heart of Washington, D.C. In the seven years since then, the firm has grown tenfold in staff, expanded across the nation and opened its first international location. With team members in St. Louis, New York, Phoenix, Maine and Paris, LINK has grown to 300+ clients, \$15 million in awarded contract value and pro bono work of over \$1 million.

LINK specializes in helping clients build mutually beneficial relationships with local communities. Over the past seven years, LINK has evolved its social impact lens, focusing on the power of human connection and supporting clients in connecting with their constituents in ways that will improve the communities they serve. LINK has also demonstrated the value of investing in team members, offering competitive salaries, benefits and professional development opportunities.

Our fair highlights the importance of small businesses to the District's economy. It provides critical information, counseling and resources to aspiring and current D.C. small business owners. Small businesses are a crucial lifeline in our local economy, and the District thrives because of the expanding success of small businesses throughout the District. We thank the Washington Convention Center for hosting us again this year, the workshop experts who are providing valuable information and assistance to aspiring and current small business owners, and, of course, all the participants.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating LINK

Strategic Partners, as well as in celebrating small businesses across the District. In the District and in districts around the country, small businesses continue to make indispensable contributions to our economies and communities.

**HONORING THE HONORABLE GERALD "JERRY" A. WORTH FOR HIS 41 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE NORTH COUNTRY AS JUSTICE FOR THE TOWN OF WILTON**

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 19, 2019*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Gerald A. Worth on his retirement as Justice of the Town of Wilton.

Justice Worth comes from a strong tradition of service to the North Country with both of his parents serving as Justices of the Town of Wilton. His father, the Honorable Wesley Worth, served from 1945 until 1973, and his mother, the Honorable Lillian Worth, served from 1973 until 1976. Justice Worth took up that mantle in 1978 and has dutifully served his community since that day.

Justice Worth has served his country and community in a variety of capacities over the course of his career. Prior to his tenure as Justice, he served the North Country as President of Saratoga County's Magistrates, spent time in the Department of Transportation, and served in the National Guard.

After so many decades of service to our community and our country, Justice Worth deserves nothing less than our deepest gratitude. It is the honor of a lifetime and truly humbling to serve such incredible North Country residents here in Congress. After retirement, Justice Worth is looking forward to time with his family; including his three daughters, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I want to thank the Honorable Gerald A. Worth for his service to our community and wish him all the happiness in the world as he begins this next chapter.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN MARSHALL MELVIN**

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 19, 2019*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of John Marshall Melvin.

John was a longtime resident of the Ninth District, moving to Jefferson, Georgia, as a young child. After graduating from Jefferson High School, John attended the University of Georgia where he played trumpet in the Dixie Redcoat Band and further cultivated his passion and talent for theater and music.

After graduating from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1965, John and his beloved wife, Mary Louise, moved to South Dakota where he served our country honorably